

ST JAMES-ST JOHN SCHOOL

Volume 1, Issue 9

May/June 2017

From the desk of your Principal

Dear Parents,

The end of the school year is almost here! Where has the year gone? As I reflect on this past school year, I realize that I am blessed to be the instructional leader of such a wonderful school family. Our Catholic identity and strong family relationships unite us. Our strong test scores acknowledge our academic successes. Our children are our greatest assets. Thank you for choosing to send your children to St. James-St John School.

Thank you to the teachers and staff who unselfishly give of their time and talent to educate our children.

God is good all the time!

During the summer months, be sure to make time for learning and make time for family meals. This is a good time for children to learn communication skills. Establish a family reading time. Other summer ideas- Play math games or investigate science through the wonders of nature. Make math problems out of every day events. On your vacation, take advantage of any learning opportunities. Help your children grow to be life-long learners. And as you play this summer, don't forget to pray. Attend Sunday Mass. If you are traveling, find a Catholic church to help your children learn firsthand about our universal church. Pray as part of your bedtime ritual. Don't let your faith slide in the summer.

Have a wonderful summer and I will see you in August (if not before).

God Bless,

Ms. Raposo

Important Dates:

Grade 8 will graduate on Monday June 5th,
Kindergarten will graduate on Tuesday June 13th at 6pm
and PK will graduate on Friday June 9th at 9am. Our
last day of school for grades 1-7 is Wednesday June 14th.

NOTES FROM NURSE ANNA

It's hard to believe that the end of the school year is quickly approaching. During the next few weeks, I will be sending home notices requesting updated immunizations or physical exams for the 2017-2018 school year. It is very important that I receive the information that I request as soon as possible especially if I note that it is mandatory for the specific grade that the student is entering. There are several mandatory requirements for the State of Massachusetts for certain grades and if the documentation is not returned before the first day of school, the student will not be allowed to stay in school on the first day of school per the State of Massachusetts guidelines. Please let me know if you have any questions at amanny@sjsjschool.com.

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PK News



The school year is nearly over! We are anticipating many fun activities in the coming weeks. The Art Show is May 17th, the Spring Concert will be held on May 19th and Preschool Bake Sale is scheduled for May 26th! We will be asking for donations from our preschool parents and volunteers will be needed to help run the Bake Sale. In June we will be taking our last field trip of the year to Buttonwood Park. The Preschool Stepping Up ceremony will be held at the school on June 9th at 9:00 a.m. The students are still very busy learning and working hard on the end of the year celebration. Don't forget to mark your calendar.

Kindergarten

I can't believe it's almost the end of the school year already! I hope everyone enjoyed their spring break and was able to relax and enjoy time as a family. With the end of the school year upon us I ask for your help in maintaining your child's daily routines at home. Proper rest, completing homework, and a good focus on school to keep your child academically strong as we finish out the year. The last few weeks of school get very busy with finishing up unit studies and testing. Learning and working will occur up until June 12th. So please help us by enforcing normal routines and an emphasis on school work at home! We thank you for your help. This is our last K newsletter for the school year and we want to say a big thank you for supporting your child this year and us as teachers! It takes a strong relationship between home and school to maintain high student academic success. We are so proud of the progress all students.

Kindergarten graduation will be on June 13th. The ceremony will take place at 6 pm. at Msgr. Antonio P Vieira Parish Center (Former Mount Carmel School) you will receive more information on this as the date approaches.

Grade 1

Happy Mother's Day!!!

May is such a beautiful time of year with all of Earth's splendor. Right before our eyes, we will be observing the life cycle of a butterfly. We will be growing and observing our planted seeds. We may even plant sunflowers in our garden for our new first graders in the Fall. We continue with our weather unit and incorporating it into our writing and art. Our math skills will be challenged with money,

geometry, and adding two digits. We also are looking forward to honoring you, our mothers, with our Mother's Day Brunch.

In June, we will be wrapping up our school year with our academics. Wow!! Where has the school year gone! We will be celebrating our accomplishments with ice cream and our trip to Somerset Creamery. We will also be remembering our dads with our special gift for Father's Day.

I am so proud of all my first graders and all they have accomplished this year. We will be celebrating our accomplishments with ice cream and our last field trip to Somerset Creamery. I am wishing all of you a very happy, enjoyable, and relaxing summer.

Lots of love,
Mrs. M

Grade 2

It is hard to believe the end of the school year is almost here! The stories in our last reading unit will look at traditions and celebrations that are important in our lives. In math we will finish a chapter with 3-digit addition and subtraction and then learn about fractions and probability. Religion classes will focus on how we live our faith. Some of our second graders have already made their First Communion and others will during the month of May. The children have been very excited about receiving this special sacrament and we hope they have a very blessed day. We are looking forward to many fun projects to end this school year. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Grade 3

Signs of Spring are everywhere! We are very excited to get to the end of the year, but we have lots of learning to get to before then! We will be starting our last reading unit of the year. Our stories will focus on our freedom and the symbols of freedom. In math we will continue learning about fractions and then begin a chapter on Geometry. We will have many lessons, activities and games to help us learn these new concepts. In English/Language Arts we will continue with our parts of speech and work on our last book report for the year. We will begin our unit on weather in Science. We will keep a weather chart and research how weathermen read data to predict the weather. In Social Studies, we will be researching a city or town in Massachusetts and complete a brochure highlighting that city or town and give oral presentations to the class. We will also make some time to create some beautiful art projects that will help to decorate our classroom! May is a month set aside for our Blessed Mother. We have a special gift we are working on for our mothers! We hope they like it! Don't worry dads; we have something for you too! The third grade would like to wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer!

COMPUTER GRADES 4-8

It's hard to believe that we are so close to the end of the school year. The time has sure gone by quickly. We will be wrapping up the year by working on some spring projects over the next few weeks. If you are looking for fun and safe computer games for rainy summer days, consider Knowledge Adventure (<http://www.knowledgeadventure.com/>) or Learning Games for Kids (<http://www.learninggamesforkids.com/>). For those budding computer scientists, there are many tutorials on the hour of code website (<https://code.org/learn>). All grades were introduced to the hour of code tutorials this year, and they were a big hit. I hope everyone has a great summer! -Mrs. Rego

ART AT SJSJ

ART

This year has flown by.....It has been a great year of ART at SJSJ School. Many of our students are completing their "What Art Means to ME" projects and they are very colorful and creative. The only requirement for this project was to include the word ART somewhere on their paper. Each one is individual in their design and meaning. I am sure you will see some of these at our Art Show this year.

SAVE THE DATE:

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 from 6:30 - 7:30 is our Annual Art Show here at SJSJ School.

Each student will select 3 of their pieces from their Art folder we have kept all year. These 3 pieces are the ones that the students feel are their best work. During Art class we will frame them and then they will be hung in the hallway by grade level. On the day of the Art Show, judges will go thru each grade level and select certain pieces for ribbons. There are 10 ribbons given in each class, 2 - 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons and 4 honorable mention ribbons. We will also have a "Make it - Take it" project in the library the night of the show. I hope to see you ALL there.

I wish everyone a wonderful summer and ALWAYS DO ART!!!!!!!. *Mrs. Wilson - Art Teacher*

GYM AT SJSJ

Wow, can't believe it's that time of year already! During the next couple of months weather permitting we will be able to have some of our gym classes outdoors. The children will be playing kick ball, new comb, soccer and also the end of the year free for all. I would like to wish all of our SJSJ families a wonderful and safe summer!

Grade 4

Students in Grade 4 have been working very hard, and are now busy on the third and final unit of the Social Studies Integrated Assessments. These regions projects are coming out very nicely, too! We are working on the Oceans Zones projects in Science, and the animals found in each zone are very interesting and well adapted to their zone. We have finished learning about and discussing the Lures Child Safety program and are back to learning about the Ten Commandments in Religion. In Math class we are now adding and subtracting fractions with like denominators and will soon be adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators too!

As Fourth Grade rapidly draws to an end, we want to wish everyone a safe and fun summer vacation!

Grade 5

As I reflect upon what to write for this May/June newsletter, I cannot believe I am writing the last one of the year! We have had a wonderful year in 5th grade so far and I cannot thank everyone enough for their support throughout the year. I have thoroughly enjoyed all of our time spent together! As we conclude our year, we will be wrapping up multiple on-going projects in Social Studies and our sacrament projects in Religion. In Science, we will conclude with physical science; discussing topics of mass, velocity, and motion. There are a few end-of-year projects I still have up my sleeve and would love to accomplish with 5th grade. I hope everyone has had an influential and enjoyable year! I wish all my 5th grade families a wonderful summer!

On a side note, all the students have been working awfully hard to prepare for the Matthew Benoit Scholarship Spring Show. Don't forget to save the date – May 19th! It will be a great evening with talented performances, yummy food, Chinese auction items, gift baskets and our lovely class projects up for auction! This fundraising event is a great way to be involved in our school community and assist families of St. James St. John School.

Grade 6

It's already that time of the year that seemed eons away when we began last August. Each of the classes is finishing their respective novels and will have a piece of writing to do that encourages them to write creatively about what it is about the novel that speaks to them.

Since we are very close to finishing the vocabulary book, the final exam for vocabulary will take place in May. The students will be given a list of specific words that will be on the test.

Eighth grade parents, it's been a pleasure to work with you and your children. When we have the same students for three years, it's been a gratifying experience to watch them grow and change into the people they are. I wish them and you happiness, success and health for the future!

MUSIC AT SJSJ

May has arrived and it has come into SJSJ in a hugely musical way! The Spring Concert is in full swing and our show date is coming soon. With that being said, our May music classes will be filled with “rehearsals” as we continue working on our songs and our dance moves! Each classroom is preparing their own song, and we will of course have our “All School” songs as we fill the auditorium with the wonderful sounds of Hollywood! It is going to be a show to remember! And once our Hollywood Stars have dazzled, June will ring in with some fun musical days as we wind down our fabulous year of music. We will bring out instruments, familiar songs, and dance our way to our summer vacation!

SPANISH AT SJSJ

Grade 7

Middle School Math and Science:

I cannot believe we are approaching the end of this school year. As we are entering our last month of school, we will be wrapping things up with final exams. I will be giving final exams to all 6 classes. These final exams will consist of all the materials we worked on this year. They should have their binders and interactive notebooks in order to help them study and prepare for these exams. They will receive a study guide late May to help prepare for the final exams. Grade 8 will be receiving their study guides for final exams sooner. We will be working and going over the study guides together in class.

Students in grades 7 and 8 have been preparing for the reality fair. They will have their mock interviews on May 2nd and they will be attending the Southern Mass Credit Union reality fair on May 17th.

Grade 8

Religion

The Lures program will be presented in grades 6-8 during the last week of April and the first week of May.

The finals for religion will be based on the last two or three chapters completed in class. They will be objective finals.

Grade 6 will move from the Old Testament to the start of the New Testament.

Grade 7 will continue an in depth look at the Sacraments.

Grade 8 will conclude the study of Church History up to the present. There will also be a Retreat Day and a visit to the Cathedral.

Social Studies

The final for the Middle School this year in Social Studies will be a PowerPoint presentation. The students will begin working on it in computer class and during class on Fridays.

Grade 6 will move on from Ancient Egypt to Ancient Rome. This is the final Chapter in the book, they have progressed very well.

Grade 7 will continue with the Federalist Era and move into the Jeffersonian and Jackson Ages.

Grade 8 is going to move into the World War I period. Hopefully this can get completed, but there are many other activities that take place during these months it really gets busy.